



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

NOV - 9 2010

Mr. James A. Ginnetti, Vice President
FirstLight Hydro Generating Company
FirstLight Power Resources
One Corporate Center
20 Church Street
Hartford, CT 01603

Re: Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Facility
Administrative Order Docket No. 10-016

Dear Mr. Ginnetti:

EPA is in receipt of an October 8, 2010 letter from Attorney Mark Sussman of Murtha Cullina, LLP submitted on behalf of FirstLight Hydro Generating Company ("FirstLight") requesting an extension of the deadline to respond to Paragraph IV.5 of the above-referenced Administrative Order. This paragraph requires that FirstLight submit a report to EPA by November 1, 2010 that identifies the measures that it will adopt to prevent future discharges of sediments associated with draining the pumped-storage reservoir and a schedule for their implementation. The letter requests an extension of the submission date for the report to July 1, 2011.

The letter notes a number of factors in support of delaying submission of the report. Since receipt of the Order, FirstLight has been occupied with planning and implementing the dredging project and clearing the remaining sediment from the penstocks and tailrace tunnel. FirstLight also noted that preparing a comprehensive report will require a significant amount of research and analysis. Finally, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") has requested that FirstLight prepare a similar report with a proposed submission date of July 1, 2011.

Based on FirstLight's representations, EPA agrees to extend the deadline for submission of the report required by Paragraph IV.5 to July 1, 2011. Should FERC require that its report on future reservoir draining activities be submitted on an earlier date, FirstLight shall notify EPA of this fact and the report required by Paragraph IV.5 shall be submitted by the due date of the FERC report.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Michael Fedak at 617-918-1766 or George Harding at 617-918-1870 of the Water Technical Unit, or have your attorney contact Michael Wagner, the EPA case attorney, at 617-918-1735.

Sincerely,

Susan Studlien

Susan Studlien, Director
Office of Environmental Stewardship

cc: John S. Howard
Mark Sussman, Esq.
Mickey J. Marcus
Susan M. Orr, Esq.
Kathleen E. Connolly, Esq.